(b) A unanimous Resolution was passed in the Bihar State Legislative Assembly on 4.4.2006 to give special status to Bihar.

(c) Under the Special Plan for Bihar, assistance of Rs. 1000 crore per annum is already being provided on 100% grant and an amount of Rs. 4636.82 crore has been released so far. Regarding Special Category Status, proposal has been received from the State Government and Government of India is seized of the matter.

Identification of Key Areas

649. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister has set up an agenda for various Ministries and has asked them to identify 54 key areas including time bound plan for internal security and has directed all departments to submit action plan that would be closely monitored by newly set up Delivery Monitoring Unit;

(b) whether 54 primary areas have been identified on the basis of the Presidential address;

(c) if so, the details of 54 priority areas and whether any action plan has been prepared; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by what time they are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (d) The agenda for the Government has been spelt out in the Address by the President of India to Parliament on 4.6.2009 and Prime Minister has addressed a letter to all Union Cabinet Ministers and Ministers of State (Independent Charge) on 6.6.2009 regarding follow up on the President's Address and other matters.

BPL persons

650. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons Below Poverty Line (BPL) the number brought out of BPL and those came in year-wise;

(b) whether any time bound programme has been worked out to bring people out of BPL completely;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The Planning Commission estimates the percentage and number of persons living below poverty line at national and state level, separately in rural and urban areas from the large sample survey on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years. As per the latest estimates, the numbers of persons living below poverty line (BPL) for the year 2004-05 is estimated to be 301.7 million accounting for 27.5%